

# Office of Governor Mitch Daniels

## Oct. 22-28, 2007      Volume 2, Issue 54



# Weekly wrap-up

## Governor Daniels announces plan for property tax relief

Oct. 23, 2007— During a live television broadcast on Tuesday evening, Governor Mitch Daniels outlined his plan to provide real and lasting property tax relief for Hoosiers. The proposal reduces property taxes for all homeowners and places a cap on the tax rate, ensuring that Hoosiers will never pay more than one percent of their home's true value. In order to protect citizens from future increases, the governor will seek an amendment to Indiana's Constitution to make these changes permanent.

"In the last three years, we have already solved problems like the state government deficit and the state highway shortfall that people said would take years or were simply impossible. We can solve this one, too, and open a new era of opportunity in which Indiana is the nation's leader in defending and promoting the American dream of home ownership," said Daniels.

Following the announcement, Governor Daniels traveled throughout the state to discuss his solution to the state's property tax crisis. He made stops in Huntington, Elkhart, Merrillville, Sellersburg, Evansville and Terre Haute to receive feedback on his plan from Hoosiers.

"I have looked at every option for change. I have talked with Hoosiers all over the state. I have studied Indiana's past approaches to this issue and the attempts of other states to deal with their own problems," said Gov. Daniels. "When Indiana acts this time, and act we must, our steps must be fair, far-reaching, and final."

[Read Governor Daniels' speech.](#)

[Listen to the governor's remarks.](#)

[View additional materials.](#)



*Oct. 25, 2007— Gov. Daniels discusses his plan to provide property tax relief to Hoosiers during a visit to Sellersburg.*

## Expansions, 'in-sourcing' fuel state's economic comeback

Oct. 22, 2007- Growth of Indiana businesses and international investment are spurring Indiana's economic growth, according to data from the Indiana Economic Development Corporation and a report from IBM Global Business Services

Indiana has already topped its 2005 job creation and investment totals three-fourths of the way through 2007. Since January, 118 businesses have committed to create 16,429 new jobs and invest more than \$2.78 billion in their Indiana operations.

"We're very proud of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. Breaking records is nice, but we must continue these results year after year to be the state we want to be," said Governor Daniels.

Following the governor's creation of the agency in 2005, the state completed competitive projects with 135 businesses that committed to create 14,439 new jobs and invest more than \$2.68 billion in their Indiana operations. In 2006, the state had record-breaking success, completing competitive projects with 183 businesses that committed to create 21,737 new jobs and invest more than \$8.28 billion in their Indiana operations.

[Read the news release.](#)

To view past updates, click [here](#).

To visit Governor Daniels' Web site, click [here](#).

## BMV increases accessibility for customers

Oct. 23, 2007- The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) revealed two major improvements to access to branch services this week.

Ron Stiver, BMV Commissioner, and Terry R. Farias, President and CEO of the AAA Hoosier Motor Club, announced that vehicle titling and registration services will soon be available at five AAA Hoosier Motor Club branch offices. Details of the partnership were explained on Tuesday at the club's newly-remodeled College Park office, which is the first facility to provide full titling and registration services.

"When I came to the BMV, Governor Daniels directed me to improve customer service on several fronts, one of which was to offer customers the choice to access BMV services outside of the traditional branch visit," Stiver explained. "Today, we are taking a major step forward through our new partnership with AAA Hoosier Motor Club."

On Friday, Commissioner Stiver traveled to Gary to announce that a new full-service license branch will open in the city next year, replacing a partial service branch that had been operating at the same location since 2005. The new branch will expand services for Gary residents while operating at half the cost of the former full-service branch.

[Read the news releases.](#)

## Eleven Indiana sites become 'shovel ready' for economic development

Oct. 26, 2007- Eleven new sites across Indiana recently earned the title of 'shovel ready', paving the way for businesses to quickly locate their businesses on a property that is ready for development.

The title is the namesake of the state's 'Shovel Ready' program that identifies sites which have undergone extensive title work, proof of ownership, legal and environmental review and qualify for expedited permitting with state regulatory agencies.

"With more and more companies looking for sites where they can have a shovel in the ground as quickly as possible, this program gives Indiana an advantage when it comes to competing with other states for new investments and new jobs," said Nathan Feltman, Secretary of Commerce and chief executive officer of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation. "This

is another vital tool in our economic development toolbox that will help give Indiana the edge when attracting new and promising investment to the state."

Designed to lower the cost of site development, improve efficiency of state permitting and enhance the marketability of sites statewide, the program has already begun to achieve success, said Brad Moore, the Shovel-Ready project manager for the Indiana Economic Development Corporation.

[Read the news release.](#)

## Packaging giant to expand Fort Wayne facility

Oct. 25, 2007- UPS, the world's largest package delivery company, announced it will expand its packaging hub in Fort Wayne, creating 25 new jobs.

The company will make a multi-million dollar investment to add more than 17,000 square feet to its northeast Indiana hub, making room for new package sorting and conveying equipment that is expected to increase its package handling capacity at the site by more than 75 percent.

[Read the news release.](#)



Oct. 25, 2007- Gov. Daniels congratulates Jamey Aebersold, recipient of the Performing Artist and Educator Award at the 2007 Governor's Arts Awards in Bloomington.

[Read the news release.](#)



Oct. 24, 2007- Gov. Daniels greets Hoosiers after participating in the Crain Lecture Series at DePauw University.

## A look ahead...

Governor Daniels will travel to Evansville and Jeffersonville this week and will host trick-or-treaters at the Governor's Residence on Wednesday.